



Fountas & Pinnell Benchmark Assessment Helpful Information for Families

What is the Fountas & Pinnell Benchmark Assessment?

The Fountas & Pinnell Benchmark Assessment System (F&P) is an assessment used to measure students' readiness for reading and to determine their independent/ instructional reading levels.

Why?

F&P assessment results support teachers to select a range of appropriate texts for students. In SFUSD, we believe students should have multiple opportunities to improve their reading by accessing complex texts with support, and practicing reading strategies in books which can be read independently.

Who takes it?

In SFUSD, all Transitional Kindergarten (TK), Kindergarten (K), and Grade 1 & 2 students take F&P Assessments. In some schools, students in Grade 3-5 also take F&P assessments in some schools.

When?

In 2016-2017, SFUSD teachers give the F&P Assessment to all TK, K, Grade 1 and 2 students twice per year:

- 1st Assessment – By October 21st, 2016
- 2nd Assessment – By February 1st, 2017

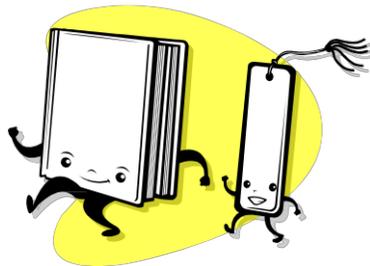
How do teachers use F&P results?

F&P Assessments provide an independent and instructional reading level on an A-Z reading level scale.

This information helps teachers:

- Guide student's in finding books which are not too hard or too easy
- Understand a student's ability to read with help (instructional) and on their own (independent)
- Plan instruction that meets the individual needs of all students
- Create reading groups and reading goals
- Monitor student progress in reading

Student Name	Grade	Assessment Date	Independent Level	Instructional Level
Shelby	1	January		
Golden Gate				
Book Title	Level	Read	Score	Comments
Shopping	1 NF 0 99 5	✓	14	
The Nice Little Book	1 F D 99 5	✓	14	
The Zoo	1 NF E 16 2	✓	10	



Things you can do!

- ➔ Ask your child's teacher, or librarian for help in choosing "just right" books.
- ➔ Ask your child's teacher to explain grade-level expectations for reading.
- ➔ Ask your child's teacher what strategies your child is working on when he or she reads.
- ➔ Read with your child and encourage him or her to read at least 20-30 minutes each day.
- ➔ If you speak a language other than English read in your home language or ask your child to read aloud in English and explain the book in your native language.